

Rain tonight; Friday partly cloudy; light to fresh easterly winds.

# The Evening Times

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The News of All the World.  
BEST SPORTING PAGE IN WASHINGTON.

Number 2234.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1902.

Price One Cent.

## WRECKS HOTEL WITH DYNAMITE; THEN BLOWS OUT HIS BRAINS

Deliberate Crime of Frank McKee at the Golden Eagle House.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF INMATES

Proprietor Brandt and His Wife Injured, Though Not Badly.

BUILDING A MASS OF RUINS

Fire, Burning for Hours, Adds to the Horror—Motive for Deed May Never Be Known—Police Theory That the Man Was in Love With Miss Brandt Disputed by Family—Had Lost a Fortune on the Races Recently.

The Golden Eagle Hotel, corner of New Jersey Avenue and D Street northwest, was completely wrecked by dynamite at a few minutes past 4 o'clock this morning as the deliberate work of Frank G. McKee, who has resided at the hotel for several years. McKee committed suicide immediately after he set off the dynamite charge by shooting himself in the right temple with a revolver.

The force of the explosion was so great that it reduced a portion of the building into a pile of ruins. Mr. Louis Brandt, the proprietor of the hotel, and his wife were hurled from their bed on the second floor and precipitated to the floor below amidst the debris. Both were painfully, although not seriously, injured. They were removed to the Emergency Hospital, George Hober, a guest, was also badly cut about the face and body. He, however, was able to go to a physician and receive medical attention.

**Wreck and Furniture on Fire.**  
The huge timbers and some of the furniture caught fire immediately after the explosion and the fire department labored for several hours in extinguishing the flames. The police and firemen rescued the score or more of guests from the structure, including the family of the proprietor, Mr. Brandt.

Coroner Nevitt reached the hotel shortly after the explosion, and after considerable difficulty the body of the suicide and dynamiter, McKee, was found lying in a pool of blood in his room. His body was resting against the door.

The man was dressed in his underclothing, pants, shoes and shirt. Death was instantaneous in the opinion of the physicians. After making a partial investigation Coroner Nevitt ordered the body to the morgue, where it now resides. It was announced by that official late this afternoon that no inquest would be held. This action was taken by the Coroner upon the information obtained by him from the police, who are positive, after having made an exhaustive examination into the matter, that McKee was the guilty party. The Coroner issued a certificate of death by suicide.

**Relatives of McKee.**

The police are now endeavoring to locate the dead man's relatives, some of whom are in Philadelphia, while others are in Chicago. Captain Boardman has detailed Detective Sergeant Hartigan and Horne on the matter with instructions to find out as much as possible regarding the dead man's antecedents. A brother of McKee, John McKee, who is employed as a baggage man on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, has been located at 512 West Lee Street, Philadelphia. A dispatch has been sent to him acquainting him with the details of the crime, and asking that he take charge of the body.

The explosion was heard for some distance about the city, and it shattered the glass in numerous houses in the vicinity of the wrecked hotel. Thousands of citizens scantly clad rushed to the building and gazed awe-stricken at the sight. In fact, all day the street in front of the battered hostelry has been crowded with curious persons, and it became necessary early in the day for Lieutenant Moore, of the Sixth precinct, to detail his reserve force under Sergeant Goss to keep them from obstructing the passageway. No estimate can be given as yet as to the loss by the explosion, although it is certain it will run up into the thousands.

**Motive for the Crime.**

The motive of the dead man in destroying the building and afterward taking his life will never be known, in all probability. The police allege that he was infatuated with Miss Sophie Brandt, the pretty sixteen-year-old daughter of the proprietor. The members of the Brandt family, however, including father, mother, son, and others, deny emphatically this statement.

Good-looking, strong, and intelligent, the dead man was exceedingly popular with his fellow-boarders, and, in fact, even with the Brandt family themselves. His act was an astonishing surprise to all who were acquainted with him.

The former big hotel presented a decidedly battered appearance when morning broke. The streets were covered with pieces of furniture of all description, windows crashed the entire second floor caved in and a portion of the roof gone.

The interior was an even worse wreck. The carpeted stairways were ankle deep with mortar and bricks, flung in every direction by the force of the collision. Heavy beams were intermingled here and there with parlor



Hotel After the Explosion.

chairs, beds, pictures and other household furniture.

**McKee's Room.**

The room occupied by McKee was badly damaged, the furniture being smashed and the door torn off its hinges. Outside the door was piled a huge mass of debris blocking the entrance. It was this that kept the firemen from finding the body sooner, it being necessary to shovel away the collection of mortar and brick in order to effect an entrance.

It was just outside of this door that the police believe the fuse and stick of dynamite were placed, as everything in a northerly direction from the door of McKee's room had been swept clear by the force.

Nine full charged sticks of dynamite were found in his trunk, and seven empty sticks and two bundles of fuses. The dead man had evidently planned his dastardly deed well some months before he put it into operation. That he failed to kill anyone except himself is regarded as nothing short of a miracle by all who have examined the building.

**Wanted to See McKee's Body.**

The body of McKee was viewed by no less than a thousand inquisitive citizens during the day, while it lay on a slab in the morgue. In fact, the demand to see the body of the dead man became so great that Coroner Nevitt was forced to stop all admittance after 11 o'clock. Among those who viewed the remains were a number of young women, who evinced as much interest in the case as they did in the James Seymour Ayres murder.

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## HOTEL DYNAMITER HAD WASTED HIS FORTUNE

Received a Legacy of \$30,000 a Year Ago.

RUINED AT ST. ASAPH TRACK

Was of Good Family—Had Been Drinking Heavily Since His Money Was Lost, It Is Said—Occurrences of Last Night Before the Explosion.

Frank G. McKee was born in the city of Philadelphia, and of a good family. He studied the trade of a machinist and came to this city about four years ago, where he secured a position in the Navy Yard. He left it for some unknown reason about two years ago, and after idling for some little time was engaged as an engineer on the Chesapeake Beach Railroad.

Love for gambling and an unusually strong attachment for race horses soon made him indolent, and about a year ago, when he received a bequest of \$30,000 from his parents' estate he stopped work. His favorite haunt was the pool rooms in the vicinity of St. Asaph's racetrack, and it is said at the time he ended his life he was penniless.

**Said to Have Been Heavy Drinker.**

During McKee's four years' stay he was a guest in the hostelry of Mr. Brandt. Being of an exceedingly quiet disposition, he rapidly made friends with the family, and was treated as though

## GRAPHIC STATEMENTS OF THE BRANDT FAMILY

Agree That Stories of McKee Being in Love With Girl Are Absurd.

When seen this morning Hotelkeeper Brandt talked freely about the catastrophe, but expressed himself as at a loss to assign any motive for it. He said:

"I have known McKee for about four years. During most of that time he boarded with me. I was always on the best of terms with him and we had never quarreled. He was a general favorite around the place and we called him 'Bo' and 'Mac'."

"I talked with him last night, but not for very long and we had no quarrel at all."

"I can't imagine why he should have done such a thing, unless he may have been partially crazy. He was not drunk when I talked with him last night."

**Family Just Back From Europe.**

"My wife and daughter, Sophie, had just got back from Europe, where they had been for three or four months at 8 o'clock last night."

"My son George wanted to have a kind of a house-warming party in honor of their return. I said it would be better to wait until Sunday when we could get all our relatives together, but he insisted on having it at once and I yielded. Mac appeared in good spirits last night and was dancing with the rest of the folks."

"We went to bed late last night. A little after 4 this morning, as I now know it to be, I was awakened by a

**Returned From Germany Last Night.**

Last night Mrs. Brandt and her daughter returned from their trip to Germany and Mr. Brandt, the husband and father, determined to give them a royal home welcome. A band was engaged and went to the B. & O. depot. The returning pair were escorted to the hotel where were assembled a score or more of friends.

Several days before their arrival McKee announced to William Triplett and Charley Thompson, two young men, that he intended leaving the hotel when Mrs. Brandt and her daughter returned. He gave no reasons.

Last night while engaged in conversation with the young men of the neighborhood he mentioned the subject of dynamite to Triplett and Thompson, and pulled from his pocket several long fuses.

He said a fellow in the pool room at St. Asaph's had given him the fuses together with sixty pounds of dynamite. He did not say what he wished to do with that. McKee also asked the young men, they assert, as to whether dynamite had a greater force up or down. He then gave to the two young men mentioned a couple of the fuses.

**McKee and Mrs. Brandt Meet.**

When Mrs. Brandt and her daughter arrived at the hostelry, Triplett, who happened to be in the hotel, says that McKee was standing in the front door. This was about 8:20, Triplett says. He says that when Mrs. Brandt came in, she turned to McKee, who was standing there, and said she was mad at him (McKee) for what he had said to her before leaving for Germany.

McKee, Triplett states, did not answer but gave in a moment, and walked off. He did not go into the room where the festivities were going on, it is said, although Mr. Brandt asked him to.

The party, it is said, did not break up until about fifteen minutes to 4 o'clock. Mr. Brandt and his wife then retired.

**Saw Powerhouse Stack Dynamited.**

It is said that McKee had for some time been gathering information from various sources regarding the workings of dynamite. He was present for two days when the preparations for dynamiting the old powerhouse chimney were in progress and was present when the stack was blown over.

**Transport Seward Reaches Manila.**

The War Department is advised of the arrival of the transport Seward at Manila, P. I., September 25.

## ENFORCED QUIET ONLY WORRY OF PRESIDENT

Resting Easily at Temporary White House.

SEES NO ONE BUT CABINET

Slight Changes in Patient's Temperature Due to Warm Weather and Transfer From Cars to Home—Giving Physicians No Special Concern.

President Roosevelt spent a comfortable night at the temporary White House, where he is expected to remain for ten days or two weeks. The absence on his leg is causing him very little annoyance beyond the quiet that it necessitates. Drs. Rixey, Lung and O'Reilly called at 10 o'clock.

There have been some slight changes in the patient's temperature, but these give the doctors no special concern. They attribute them to last night's transfer from the station to the White House, as well as the existing warm weather.

The wound was opened last night after the President's arrival at the White House, and was found to be progressing normally. Whether or not it will have to be opened again, will not develop until later. The President is kept very quiet, none but members of the Cabinet, outside of his immediate family and attendants, being permitted to see him. His callers this morning were Secretary of the Treasury Shaw and Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock.

Secretary Cortelyou was asked the question direct whether the President's condition is as favorable today as it was yesterday. He answered in an emphatic affirmative.

All intentions of finishing the interrupted trip this year have been abandoned. The President will not travel until after the adjournment of Congress, when he will go to the Coast and also take in the places which have been cut out of the itinerary just closed. He does not intend to go back to Oyster Bay.

## DEMOCRATS IN STORMY FIGHTS IN CONNECTICUT

State Convention in New Haven Anything But a Love Feast.

AN UGLY ROW ON THE FLOOR

Demagogue, Robber, and Other Hard Names Applied by Delegates—Opposed to Silver Plank and Reference to Bryan—Disputes Over Credentials.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 25.—It is doubtful if this State ever witnessed a more exciting opening of a Democratic State convention than that of today.

It has been a vigorous fight from the very start, and if members come to blows it will be no surprise.

The convention was called to order at 10:45 by Charles F. Thayer, chairman of the State central committee. He named as temporary chairman Senator John J. Walsh, of Norwich, and temporary secretary, Edward J. Maher, of New Haven. Senator Walsh made an extended address as temporary chairman.

Senator Walsh's speech occupied nearly one hour. It attacked the trusts,

the theory of the protective tariff and the existing constitution of Connecticut, which he said put land above men. He declared that the Democratic party demanded for the cities of the State a large proportion of representatives in the Legislature.

The temporary officers were then made permanent, and a recess of half an hour was ordered. The committee on resolutions was not ready to report owing to a colossal fight over the Kansas City platform plank.

The chief feature of the day was outlined as the disagreement over the platform and the nomination for governor.

**Delegates Call Ugly Names.**

The Gold Democrats had the convention well in hand, and declared themselves able to prevent any attempt to insert any silver plank, any indorsement of the Kansas City platform or any reference to William J. Bryan in the platform.

Delegate Kinsella, of Hartford, called Byron F. Mahan, of New London, a robber. Mahan, who is chairman of the committee on resolutions, yelled back: "You're a gentleman, but you can't bulldoze me." The row arose over the credentials of the four delegates from Union county.

During the meeting of the committee on resolutions stormy scenes were enacted. Delegate Fish, of Guilford, resigned, calling the other members of the committee demagogues and other hard names.

At the Korean legation in this city, nothing has been received concerning the report of the King's death, nor is the State Department informed of the effect. The fiftieth anniversary of the King's birth fell upon September 8 last, and preparations had been made to celebrate the occasion with fitting pomp.

Then conditions made it necessary to postpone the celebration on the 8th, and finally the spread of cholera in Korea caused a year's postponement of the fête. It is probably this last postponement of the occasion which has led to the story printed in the "Figaro."

**MITCHELL INVITED TO SPEAK IN BOSTON**

BOSTON, Sept. 25.—A mass meeting of laboring people and socialists was held last night at Dexter Hall, at which measures were taken to aid the striking coal miners of Pennsylvania.

It was decided to ask President Mitchell, of the Miners' Union, to come here and an address was ordered sent to him outlining the purpose of the movement.

**STEAMSHIP SINKS; FOURTEEN DROWNED**

VIENNA, Sept. 25.—A Danube steamship sank near here today. Fourteen persons were drowned.

## SHAW SAYS HE WILL STAND BY THE BANKS

SECRETARY SHAW DENIES RUMORS OF RESIGNATION

Issues Statement Declaring That His Views on Finance and Politics Accord With President.

During the past few days it has been reported that Secretary Shaw, of the Treasury, intended to hand in his resignation to the President, the alleged cause being that the views of both on the tariff and the financial question were not in accord with each other.

Secretary Shaw this morning, upon his return from his Western trip, said that the question of resignation had never entered his mind for the very good reason that he and the President were of one mind and opinion on all questions of finance and politics.

Mr. Shaw further said it was not likely that the President would ask him to accompany him on his Western tour and make speeches if he were not in entire accord with his views on every subject of importance.

Later, in order that no misunderstanding might arise, Secretary Shaw issued a typewritten statement.

"I denied this rumor in Chicago," he continued. "It would seem unnecessary to repudiate a story that has no author and is built upon a false assumption, and is enlarged upon simply to fill space. The President and the Secretary of the Treasury are in thorough harmony. Of this there need be no doubt. If the speeches made by the President and the Secretary will be read and compared, instead of the headlines."

## DEATH OF WELL-KNOWN NEWSPAPER WRITER

NEWTON, Mass., Sept. 25.—William H. Hopkins, assistant day editor of the "Boston Globe," and the writer of its "Bud Brier" column, died at his home in Newton Upper Falls last night. Death was due to a complication of diseases.

Mr. Hopkins was obliged to give up his duties about two months ago owing to illness. The body will be sent to Zanesville, Ohio. Mr. Hopkins' home, where the interment will take place, Mr. Hopkins was about 38 years of age.

**Will Try No Experiments.**

"The only way to get money out of the Treasury into circulation, after it has been actually covered in, is by the payment of legal obligations of the Government. These may be anticipated. The department did anticipate the October interest. It now offers to anticipate all interest maturing between October 1 and the end of the fiscal year, if presented within sixty days, at a rebate of two-tenths of 1 per cent per month, which is at the rate of 2.4 per cent per annum."

"In other words these obligations will be prepaid at such a rate as to allow the Government to profit thereby at 2.4 per cent per annum. The amount maturing before June 30, 1903, is a round figure \$20,650,000. The profit to the Government if this offer shall be accepted will be in round figures \$220,000."

"There will be no experiments tried, and no policy adopted until after mature deliberation and no feelers will be sent out. Anything to the contrary should be discarded."

**SPEAKER HENDERSON BREAKS HIS SILENCE**

Says His Party Will Have Enough Trust Medicine.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 25.—Speaker Henderson, who is for the time being a resident of Atlantic City, has broken his silence. He confirmed his utterances regarding the effect of his action in leaving the active councils of the Republican party.

"I do not believe," he said, "that my action will injure the Republican party, but on the contrary, will help its success. This party will soon get enough of the men who are trying to lead it into false paths."

"I cannot entertain a doubt that the Republican party will carry the next House, and I feel sure that nothing in my declaration will prevent that result."

"The Republican party has never so thoroughly deserved the approval of the country."

"The country at large does not understand the Iowa situation. Governor Cummins wants to use free trade in whole or in part to hit the trusts. I don't believe that to be the true remedy, but I think it fraught with disaster to the country."

"I feel confident the majority of voters in my district, yes, the majority of voters in the State of Iowa, are in accord with my views. Many Iowa citizens, however, have become inoculated with this new plan for hitting the trusts, regardless of the consequences to the people."

"I am willing to fight Democrats and Populists, but when it comes to fighting Republicans, I desire to step out and let these men try their schemes. The Republican party will soon have enough of such disastrous medicine as they propose to administer to cure the trust evil."

**Ocean Steamship Movements.**

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—Arrived: Monaghan, from Glasgow; Patricia, from Hamburg; Glencoe, from Swansea; Nicoto, from Cuba; Maravat, from Trinidad.



Interior of the Wrecked Building.

the house of Mr. Herbert Levy, at 406 New Jersey Avenue northwest, two doors north of the wrecked building.

**Wounds Not Dangerous.**

While extremely painful, their wounds were not regarded as dangerous. Brandt is horribly lacerated and cut about the feet and legs, but no bones were broken. It was found necessary to take a half dozen stitches in his right leg. There is also a painful cut in his back.

Mrs. Brandt's left hand is torn and bruised, but not broken. Her left foot is also cut. She is able to sit up, but Brandt is compelled to lie on a couch.

About 9 o'clock, after removing the sufferers to Mr. Levy's place, Dr. Sellhausen arrived and redressed their wounds.

shock and a pain in one of my feet. I felt myself to be falling, and cried out to ask my wife where she was.

"My first thought when I felt the pain in my foot was that I had received an electric shock in some manner, and I called to my wife to watch for the wire."

"I must have been falling at the time. We fell clear through the floor of the second story room, where we slept, and I must have crawled out the back door window in front, although I don't remember about that. At any rate, when I found myself outside I knew that I could not stand up."

"I called to my wife to come, and she answered me that her arm was caught. I could not help her to get loose. She got loose herself, I think. I was afraid

(Continued on Second Page.)